



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 0198X-2019, **Version:** 1

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To Designate June as Men's Health Month in the City of Columbus and to recognize the work of the National African American Male Wellness Initiative and their efforts to improve men's health.

**WHEREAS**, Men's Health Month was created to heighten the awareness of preventable health problems and to encourage early detection and treatment of disease in men; and

**WHEREAS**, Men continue to live an average of almost six years less than women with Native American and African-American Men having the lowest overall life expectancy; in spite of the advances in modern medical technology and research; and

**WHEREAS**, educating men continues to be a priority as men who are educated about the value of preventative health are more likely to participate in health screenings; and fathers who maintain healthy lifestyles are more likely to become role models for their children, ultimately leading to happier healthier children and healthier future adults; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2004 John H. Gregory founder of the National African American Male Wellness Initiative, AAMWI in Columbus, Ohio to raise awareness that men can live longer from preventable health diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, 2019 marks the 16th Anniversary of the AAMWI which has provided thousands of health screenings to men in Central Ohio and now has wellness events, walks and screenings in cities across the United States in places like, New Orleans, Washington D.C., Charlotte, Seattle and Atlanta; and

**WHEREAS**, the AAMWI has been recognized by President Obama who stated, "Everyone deserves the chance to lead a healthy life, and all our communities should have the support they need to thrive. Yet despite the overall improvement of health care and services across America in recent years, disparities in health persist"; and President Michael V. Drake, The Ohio State University, "By promoting healthier choices and behaviors and the knowledge required to make those choices in the first place, we can and will make a difference."

**WHEREAS**, the City of Columbus, Columbus Recreation and Parks, Columbus Public Health and a vast array of corporate and community partners, volunteers, organizers and others are committed to improving the overall health of our community and the health of men in general, now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:** That this Council does hereby designate June as Men's Health Month in the City of Columbus and recognize and applaud the work of the National African American Male Wellness Initiative efforts to improve men's health.